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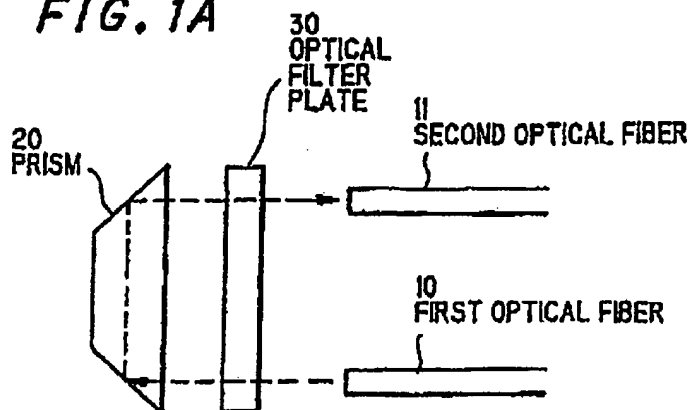
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(54) Variable wavelength optical filter

(57) A variable wavelength optical filter comprises first and second optical fibers, which are arranged in parallel with each other, light-reflecting means, and an optical filter plate. The surface of the optical filter plate is parallel with a line, which is perpendicular to both the first and second optical fibers, and almost perpendicular to a plane, which is determined by the optical axes of both the first and second optical fibers. The optical filter

plate rotates around an axis, which runs in parallel with the aforementioned plane determined by both the optical axes, and thereby an incidence angle of a light beam incident on the optical filter plate is adjusted. A $\lambda/4$ - plate or a $\lambda/8$ - plate is further inserted between light-reflecting means and the optical filter plate.

FIG. 1A



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